Outcomes and Rubrics in Canvas

Div of IT Learning Technologies
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Outcomes and Rubrics

Learning outcomes refer to what a student is expected to achieve or do (competencies) at the completion of an assignment or a course. Outcomes in Canvas enable faculty and administrators to track mastery in a course. Outcomes can be set at a course level as well as the college or department level (the account or subaccount level).

Please note: Account and subaccount level settings can only be managed by a system administrator. If departments or colleges need to track outcome data, the outcomes need to be set up at the account or subaccount level.

Assessments and assignments can be aligned to learning outcomes via rubrics. Rubrics are used to collect data for tracking outcomes.

There are five steps for the outcome building process:

• Create outcomes (If your college or department has created outcomes, you can access those outcomes in a Canvas space.)
• Create rubrics and link outcomes to rubrics.
• Add rubrics to assessments and assignments.
• Retrieve outcome reports.

Creating Learning Outcomes in Canvas

At a course level, outcomes can be either imported from an account or subaccount level, or created directly within the course.

1. Click the Outcomes link on the left Navigation menu.

2. Click the New Group button to create a new group to organize your outcomes.
3. Click the **New Outcomes** button on the right to create a new outcome in the group.

![Learning Outcomes](image)

The screen capture below shows a learning outcome group called “Oral Presentation”. This group contains three learning outcomes.

![Setting up Outcomes](image)

You can also import the outcomes that have been created by your department, college or institution by clicking the **Find** button.

4. After you click the **New Outcome** button, enter a description for this outcome.
5. When you define a learning outcome, you should also define a criterion or levels of measurement for an outcome. Those criteria will be used when building assignment rubrics. Define as many rubric columns as you need, and specify a point threshold that will be used to define mastery of this outcome.
You can edit a criterion by clicking the pencil icon or insert a criterion rating by clicking the “Insert” arrow. Please note, you are not able to edit the imported outcomes located at the account or subaccount level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion ratings</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exceeds Expectations</td>
<td>5 Points</td>
<td>Meet Expectations</td>
<td>3 Points</td>
<td>Does Not Meet Expectations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mastery at: 3

6. After you have completed the outcome criterion, click Save to save the outcome. The screen capture below is an example of a learning outcome.

**Vocal Delivery was effective**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advanced: Spoke articulately and in conversational tone for the duration of the presentation; voice levels, rate, pitch &amp; tone effectively varied. Correct pronunciation; excellent flow of sentences; used few vocal fillers.</th>
<th>Proficient: Voice levels, rate, pitch and tone were acceptable; pronunciation was mostly correct; articulation was clear but not completely polished; some vocal fillers.</th>
<th>Developing: Voice levels, rate, pitch and tone lacked variety; some words were mispronounced; filler words were used to the point of distraction.</th>
<th>Unacceptable: Spoke unclearly throughout the presentation; mispronounced words; had little variety of voice qualities and had long pauses or many filler words that distracted from the vocal delivery.</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Points</td>
<td>3 Points</td>
<td>2 Points</td>
<td>0 Points</td>
<td>5 Points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Creating Rubrics and Aligning Outcomes with Rubrics**

Using rubrics, learning activities and assessments can be aligned to learning outcomes. This allows designers, teachers, and learners to identify how specific learning activities relate to
broader course goals or objectives. Grading student work using the rubrics automatically collects and compiles data on student progress for the outcomes.

You can create rubrics from the Outcomes tool and then add the rubric to an assignment later or you can add a rubric directly to an assignment, aligning the outcomes with the rubric during the process.

**To Add Rubric Directly to an Assignment**

1. Click the **Assignments** link.
2. Click on the assignment title.
3. Click the **Add Rubric** button.
4. Give the rubric a title.
5. To align rubric to outcomes, click **Find Outcome Criterion** to find all existing outcomes you have created for this course. You will be then able to see all outcome groups and learning outcomes in each group. Select one learning outcome you want to use and then “Import” it to the rubric.

   ![Rubric Image]

6. Make sure you check “Use this rubric for assignment grading”.
7. You can also click the **Add Criterion** link to add more criterions. Rows are used to define the various criteria. Columns are used to define levels of performance for each criterion.
8. Click the **Create Rubric** button to create and add the rubric to this assignment.

**To Create Rubric via the “Outcomes” Tool**

1. From the **Outcomes** link, click the **Manage Rubrics** button on the right.

   ![Manage Rubrics Image]

2. From the right pane, select the **Add Rubric** button.
3. Give the rubric a title.
4. Click the **Find Outcome Criterion** link. You will be then able to see all outcome groups and learning outcomes in each group. Select one learning outcome you want
to use and then import it to the rubric.

You can then edit the criterion rating by clicking on each rating.

5. Click the Create Rubric button to create the rubric. Next, you will need to add the rubric to an assignment.
6. Click the Assignments link.
7. Click the assignment title.
8. Click the Add Rubric button at the bottom of page.
9. Click Find a Rubric button so that you can browse to all existing rubrics in this course.

It shows all the rubrics in this course.
10. Select the rubric you want to use for this assignment. Click on the **Use This Rubric** button to attach the rubric to the assignment.

**Outcome Reports**

Grading student work using rubrics automatically collects and compiles data on student progress for the outcomes. Faculty can use the data to improve teaching, identify at-risk students, and support the accreditation process.

**Viewing Outcome Data at a Course Level**

Instructors can view the outcome data in a course space. A tabular display of data is displayed listing assignments connected to outcomes (artifacts), the assignment score and the mastery level.

Outcome data can be viewed by user or by outcome.

**Viewing the Outcome Data by User**

1. Go to the course roster by clicking the **People** link.

2. Click on a student name and then select the **Outcomes** button on the right.
Viewing the Outcome Data by Learning Outcome

1. Click the Outcomes link.
2. Click a specific outcome and then click on the outcome title above the criteria table to see student results and artifacts.

3. Then, you can view the assessments and activities aligned to the outcome, and the progress of individual student on each artifact (the aligned assessment or activity). The green check indicates the student has received a high enough score to satisfy the outcome threshold value.
Generating Reports at the Account Level

If outcome data need to be tracked at a department or college level, the outcomes must be set up at the account or subaccount level. Only outcomes set at the college or department level (account or subaccount level) and then used in the course level assignments are included in the reports at the account and subaccount level.

Please note: the account and subaccount level settings can only be managed by a system administrator. Only a system administrator is able to add and generate outcome reports at the account and subaccount level.